

Notice of Public Scoping

Grazing Permit Renewals and Land Health Assessments

Comment Period: Open until **October 31, 2004**

Contact:	Buddy Green		
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The Gunnison Field Office (SAFO) is soliciting public comments on the following two topics: First, we are seeking public input for the assessment of public land health standards for Colorado. Secondly, we intend to renew 7 grazing permit\leases as part of a landscape health assessment during FY 2005. We need to determine the level of public interest, concern, and resource conditions on each of the allotments up for assessment and renewal.

The assessment of public land health will be done on a land area basis. During FY 2005 the Gunnison Field Office will be completing land health assessment(s) in the following land areas: West Elk, Doyleville, and Lost Canyon Land Areas.



Once the FO receives the public comments, the staff will meet as an interdisciplinary team. Public comments and all other available information provided, will be used by the FO Inter-Disciplinary Team to complete the Land Health Assessment.

Following are the allotments and acreage identified in the FO that we are soliciting input regarding when the assessment will be initiated.



Name	Federal Acreage
West Elk	36,000
Doyleville	58,000
Lost Canyon	38,000



The FO will also be completing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis and making decisions on the renewal of expiring grazing permits. Since the level of NEPA analysis is in part driven by the level of public interest and concern, your comments are requested relative to conditions you have observed on these allotments, and/or specific environmental concerns about the lands and/or resources found within the specific allotment. The more specific and factual your information is, the more helpful and useful it will be.

An interdisciplinary team will rank the expiring permits into high and low priority categories based on public comments and all other information available. The ranking will help determine the amount of consideration necessary and the appropriate level of NEPA documentation for reaching a decision on each grazing permit renewal. The ranking will also help to allocate resources to address concerns on a priority basis.

The following permits will be renewed during FY 2005. The level of NEPA analysis is in part driven by the level of public interest and concern. Your comments on these allotments is being sought.

Permittee	Allotment	Public Land Acreage	County
John Judson	Van Tassel Gulch 06350	1381	Saguache
Cimarron Land & Cattle Co.	West Slope 06021	268	Gunnison
Ward Ranches, Inc.	Cochetopa Creek 16346	905	Saguache
Owsley Ranch, LLLP	Pleasant View 06310	1094	Gunnison
Peterson Ranch, Inc.	South Parlin Flats Common 06317	15,569	Gunnison & Saguache
	Doyleville Common 16304	3,284	Gunnison
Joseph P. Tamarcaz	South Parlin Flats Common 06317	15,569	Gunnison & Saguache
	Razor Creek 06359 Waunitia Hot	717	Gunnison
	Springs 16306	657	Gunnison
	Wood Gulch Common 06305	5,968	Gunnison
Gegory F. & Patricia J. Kruthaupt	Wood Gulch Common 06305	5,968	Gunnison

If you have any information or concerns, wish to be considered as an interested party on a permit or allotment, or wish to be involved in a health of the land assessment, please contact the individual at the address above to be put on a mailing list. If you do have not specific comments at this time but have questions about the land areas or allotments listed in this notice, contact the individual at the address above.